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Kansas Adjutant Generals' reports

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Report of the Adjutant General, <1863, 1869>

Annual Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Kansas, for the year ... <1870-1872>

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REPORT

OF THE

ADJUTANT GENERAL:

1869.

ROSTER OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF AND STAFF.

NAME.	RANK.	OFFICE.
JAMES M. HARVEY	Governor	Commander-in-Chief
W. S. MOORHOUSE	Colonel	Adjutant General
H. T. BEMAN	Major	Assistant Adjutant General.
WILLIAM BURGOYNE	Lieut. Colonel	Aid-de-Camp
WILLIAM C. JONES	...do	..do
FRANK H. DRENNING	...do	..do

REPORT.

STATE OF KANSAS,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
TOPEKA, December 20th, 1869.

To His Excellency JAMES M. HARVEY, *Governor and Commander-in-Chief:*

SIR: In accordance with the requirements of law, I have the honor to submit to your Excellency, the annual report of this department for the year ending November 30th, 1869.

By virtue of an appointment from your Excellency, I assumed charge of this department on the 3d day of March, 1869.

Upon taking charge of the office, I found the records in excellent condition, gotten up systematically, neat and in good order. My predecessors have shown commendable energy in their duties while in charge of the office. The records are not yet complete, as I have had no assistance, and my time being occupied by other matters.

By the requirements of an act of the legislature, entitled "An act to provide for the auditing, settlement and assumption of the Price raid claims of 1864, and the Indian expedition under Maj. Gen. Curtis, in July and August, 1864," I was constituted the receiver of said claims, and had the following notice published:

STATE OF KANSAS,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
TOPEKA, March 9th, 1869.

Commission to audit claims growing out of the Price raid, and Indian expedition under Maj. Gen. Curtis in July and August, 1864 :

A commission, consisting of Hon. Levi Woodward, Hon. David Whittaker and Hon. T. J. Taylor, has been appointed to examine, in every particular, into the claims rejected by either of the former commissions heretofore created for want of proper proof, and not having passed upon their merit; and all claims that have not been heretofore audited, or allowed by either board of examiners. The commission will meet on the 1st Tuesday in April, 1869.

The Adjutant General of the State is constituted the receiving officer of all claims, and all persons holding such claims, are hereby notified to send the same to my office, at the city of Topeka, before the first day of April, 1869. The forms of proof will, as near as may be, the forms prescribed by the rules and regulations of the United States army, which shall be approved by the commanding officer of each company, regiment, detachment, brigade or division. The certificate of the quartermaster or subsistence officer thereof is required; or if such cannot be obtained, the claims shall be sworn to by at least two responsible witnesses, and supported by such other proof as the board may require.

W. S. MOORHOUSE, *Adjutant General.*

The commission convened in accordance with the act, and passed all claims presented. Several claims were received after the adjournment of the commission, all of which I returned to the claimants.

In accordance with the requirements of an act to provide for the settlement of losses sustained by the settlers of the frontier, from Indian depredations, I issued the following circular and sent copies to all persons that I thought would give it publicity :

STATE OF KANSAS,
OFFICE OF ADJUTANT GENERAL,
TOPEKA, March 13th, 1869.

DEAR SIR: A commission has been appointed to audit the losses sustained by the settlers on the frontier during the

years 1867 and 1868. The commission will meet at the city of Topeka, on the first Tuesday in April, 1869. All persons having sustained losses from Indian depredations, will send the same to the commission, to audit claims on the western frontier, Topeka, Kansas. Claimants will, if known, state the name or tribe of Indians that committed the depredations. The forms of proof will be the affidavit of the claimant, supported by at least two disinterested witnesses, and such other proof as the board may require.

W. S. MOORHOUSE, *Adjutant General.*

The commission met on the day appointed and passed upon all claims presented.

Early in May the Indians began to lurk around the frontier settlements, but no depredations were committed until the 21st of May, when a body of them made an attack on a party of hunters on the Republican river, succeeding in driving them in, together with all the settlers on White Rock creek, Republic county, and on the Republican river as far down as Lake Sibley, killing, plundering and burning everything before them. It is impossible to get at the exact number killed, as the reports are conflicting, but from the best information, sixteen persons in all were killed.

The following dispatch was received from Captain B. C. Sanders:

LAKE SIBLEY, Kansas, May 26th, 1869.

COL. MOORHOUSE—*Dear Sir*: The Indians, about fifty in number, made an attack on our upper settlements on or near Rock creek, in Republic county, and killed six men; one woman and two boys missing. Thirteen horses were run off and property of all kinds destroyed. The Indians are lurking around in the vicinity. From appearances there must be a large body near at hand. I have men out, and will keep them out, until I hear from you.

Your obedient servant.

B. C. SANDERS.

Capt. Sanders, with the settlers around Lake Sibley, succeeded in driving the Indians off.

On the 30th day of May the Indians made a raid on the Saline river, in which they killed and wounded thirteen per-

sons, men, women and children, and carried into captivity two women and one child, Mrs. Alderdice and babe and Mrs. Weiser. Mrs. Weiser was afterwards recaptured by General Carr, in a fight with the Indians near the headwaters of the Republican, Mrs. Alderdice and babe being killed by the Indians during the fight.

At the time of the raid Mr. Alderdice was at Salina, and upon his return found two of his children, aged respectively seven and nine years, killed; one little boy, aged four years, with two arrows through him, and his wife and babe carried into a captivity to which death would be mercy in comparison.

These raids proved conclusively the necessity of troops on the frontier, and, by your direction, I immediately commenced the organizatiom of the militia, authorized by an act of the last legislature.

Indians were still lurking around the vicinity of Lake Sibley, and with thirty-four recruits I started for that point. Upon my arrival at Clyde, in Cloud county, I received a dispatch from your Excellency, informing me of a raid on Pipe creek, and the Solomon river. I immediately started with thirty men, up Buffalo creek, a tributary of the Republican, where Indians had been seen the day before, to its head, and from there over to the Solomon river, expecting to head them off, but no Indians were seen. Three men were killed on the Solomon, and a large amount of stock captured. A small party of recruits, of Capt. Dalrymple's company started in pursuit, driving the Indians off, killing one, and recapturing nearly all the stock.

I stationed Capt. Winsell with his recruits, on Plum creek, which was at that time the outpost of the settlements, with instructions to fill his company to the minimum, which he did from the settlers in the valley.

Capt. Dalrymple, with a detachment of his company, was stationed from Minneapolis to Fisher creek. The settlers, who had congregated in squads for mutual protection, now pretty generaly returned to their claims.

Capt. Pliley, with his company, was stationed at the block house on Spillman creek, a tributary to the Saline, and Lieut. Tucker, with a detachment of Capt. Dalrymple's

company, at a point near where Spillman empties into the Saline.

Capt. Stanfield, with his company, was stationed near the forks of Beaver creek and the Republican river, with a detachment of fifteen men, at the salt marsh in Republic county.

Lieut. Stinson, with a detachment of thirty men, was stationed on Turkey creek, about ten miles from where it empties into the little Arkansas.

The following is the battalion, as originally mustered in:

Co. A—Capt., A. J. Pliley, 1st Lieut., C. B. Whitney, 2d Lieut., John Marshall; fifty-four men.

Co. B—Capt., W. A. Winsell, 1st Lieut., Joseph Becock, 2d Lieut., B. C. Lawrence; sixty-one men.

Co. C—Capt., I. N. Dalrymple, 1st Lieut., H. H. Tucker; seventy men.

Company D—Capt., Richard Stanfield, First Lieutenant, Herod Johnson; sixty-five men.

Detachment—2d Lieutenant C. Stinson, thirty men.

Making an aggregate of eleven commissioned officers and three hundred enlisted men, considerable more than the number authorized by law. This excess was caused from the fact that during the high water all communication with the frontier was cut off and men were recruited more rapidly than I anticipated. The number was gradually reduced to one hundred and fifeen at the final muster out, on Nov. 20th, 1869.

The total expense of the battalion is $82,833.26, as per itemized account attached.

I visited the posts frequently during the summer, and always found the troops attending to their duties, patrolling from river to river, with frequent expeditions to the front. The officers all did well, and each seemed to do his utmost to prevent any further raids on the settlements.

It was with the utmost difficulty that I could get suitable arms to arm the battalion. The carbines used by the 1st battallion were issued out to the settlers, and no receipts were taken, consequently I could not tell where they were. The settlers were very loth to give up the guns. It is hardly fair, however, to find fault with them for not wanting to, for,

above anything else, a good carbine is needed in that country. When the 2d battalion was mustered out, I issued the guns to the settlers, taking receipts therefor.

With the exception of a few hundred stand, the arms belonging to the State are worthless. The State drew its quota of arms during the rebellion, and it was impossible to get good ones, as the general government needed all they had. The consequence is, that we got a very inferior lot of arms. It seems to me that it would be good policy for the legislature to make a sufficient appropriation to collect up all the unserviceable guns, in view of having them inspected, condemned and turned back to the government. We could then draw serviceable ones.

It is impossible to give you the number of persons liable for military duty, as only five counties have sent in their report. With the exception of three independent companies on the frontier, there is no military organization in the State.

The 2d volume of the Adjutant General's report, together with the regimental histories of the regiments in the United States service from this State, was printed and in the hands of the binder, when they were destroyed by fire on the 28th day of November, 1869. It will be necessary to have the roster re-printed, in order to complete the record.

The expenditures of the Adjutant General's office for the year 1869 are:

Adjutant General's salary, ...	$1,200.00
Contingent Fund, ...	300.00
Postage, ...	52.13
	$1,552.13

The correspondence of the office is still large, frequent calls being made from claim agents, and the departments at Washington, for certificates, in order that soldiers can secure pensions, bounties, etc.

This office has become the depository of important records, which appertain to, and are identified with nearly every family in the State. The histories of fathers, brothers, husbands, relatives and friends, are here deposited, and will, in all future time, be a record of the loyalty with which the

citizens of the State have come up to the support of the government and the Union.

Thanking you for the uniform kindness received at your hands, I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. S. MOORHOUSE, *Adjutant General.*

EXPENSES OF 2D BATTALION KANSAS STATE MILITIA.

Amount paid for services,	$51,658.50.
Amount paid for service of detachments of 1st battalion, Kansas State Militia,	1,681.84.
Amount paid for rations, camp and garrison equipage,	16,819.27.
Amount paid for forage,	4,562.08.
Amount paid for transportation,	4,037.65.
Amount paid for medical attendance,	655.03.
Amount paid for printing bonds,	125.00.
Amount paid for organizing and of commission,	.780.60.
Amount paid for recruiting,	.903.17
Amount paid for horse-shoeing,	774.62.
Amount paid for lost horses,	545.00
Amount paid for quarters,	290.50.
Total,	$82,833.26.